

JOHN B. COLLINS

May 4, 2005

Christopher A. Knight, Director
Florida Highway Patrol
2900 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee FL 32399-0500

Dear Sir:

I had the pleasure of meeting one of your officers during a routine traffic stop on May 2, 2005. I have some comments that I feel need to be brought to your attention.

During the past 45 years or so I have met a number of good people but only a few that are in the exceptional category. Trooper J. Smyrnios, ID1435/921, Troop H-Madison is in the rare exceptional category.

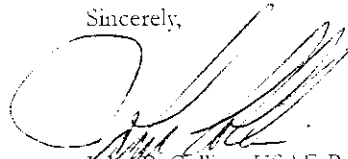
Trooper Smyrnios demonstrated communication skills that instantly put me at ease. He was very professional at all times. The uniform was spotless and neat. Within two minutes he knew who I was, where I had been, why I was on the road and where I was going. This interview was done so smoothly and with such enthusiasm and professionalism I had no feeling of even being questioned.

I understand you have some 1500 officers under your command and I wanted you to know just how well this officer is representing the State of Florida and your office. This officer is a credit to both the State and the Florida Highway Patrol.

This morning the radio had some negative comments concerning a Florida Highway Patrol Officer. The news almost never seems to be interested in the positive work these officers do everyday.

Thank you for having officers of Trooper Smyrnios caliber patrolling our highways.

Sincerely,



John B. Collins, USAF, Retired

